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FROM: Derek C. Stettner

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SENT BY: Karen J. Kline

EXTENSION: 5236

LOCATION: 29NE

RE: U.S. Patent Application Serial No.: 09/826,392

NUMBER OF PAGES, INCLUDING COVER:	4		
CLIENT-MATTER NUMBER:	087805-9025-00	SENDER'S ACCOUNT NUMBER	0005

NOTES/COMMENTS:

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**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Group Art Unit 2623****APR 22 2005**

In re

Patent Application of

Martin Weston et al.

Serial No.: 09/826,392


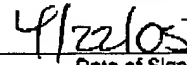
Filed: April 4, 2001

Examiner: Wesley J. Tucker

Confirmation No.: 2929

"SPATIAL VIDEO PROCESSING"

I, Karen J. Kline, hereby certify that this correspondence is
being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark
Office, on the date of my signature.


Signature
Date of Signature**INTERVIEW SUMMARY**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

On March 24, 2005, Applicant conducted an interview with the Office regarding the above-identified application. The interview was conducted by telephone. The following individuals were present during the telephone conference.

Representing the Office: Examiner Wesley Tucker and Examiner Jon Chang.

Representing the Applicant: Attorney of Record Derek C. Stettner; Assignee Snell & Wilcox's U.K. patent counsel Peter D. Garratt and technical assistant Daniel Northway, both of the U.K. firm Mathys & Squire; inventor Martin Weston; and Laura Leitchfeld, in-house patent attorney of assignee Snell & Wilcox.

During the interview the Applicant's representative Peter Garratt discussed the cited references: U.S. Patent No. 6,181,382, issued to Kieu et al. (the "Kieu reference") and U.S.

Patent No. 5,008,618, issued to Meno et al. (the "Meno reference"). Inventor Martin Weston and Applicant's representative Derek Stettner also provided some commentary.

In general terms, Mr. Garratt explained Applicant's position that the Kieu reference does not disclose a video processing apparatus as claimed in claims 1 and 4. It was pointed out that the structure relied upon in the Office action mailed on January 5, 2005, does not select a filter aperture based on the output of a slope detector. For example, it appears that the edge detector 222 does provide some indication of edge direction, but that apertures in the filters in block 252 (the edge binary filters) are not selected based upon a slope. Rather, nine filtering operations are carried out and information from the nine edge binary filters 252 is sent to a direction decision [module] 270. The output of the direction decision [module] 270 is sent to a steered spatio-temporal interpolator 42. Thus, in the Kieu reference the filters 252 are a component of the edge direction detector 44, whose output 54 is used in the steered spatio-temporal interpolator 42. More importantly, the edge binary filters 252 do not operate such that a "positive filter aperture is employed upon detection of any positive slope in excess of a defined positive threshold; the negative filter aperture is employed upon detection of any negative slope in excess of a defined negative threshold; and the linear filter aperture is employed otherwise" as claimed in claim 4. As noted, nine filtering operations are carried out.

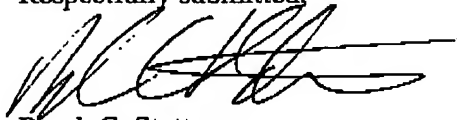
Regarding the Meno reference, while this reference does disclose one filter aperture with weightings that sum to unity over a line and to zero on each side of that line, the reference does not suggest or teach a video processing apparatus where the filter aperture weightings for each of the set of spatial filter apertures sum to unity over a line including the current pixel and sum to zero on each side the line. In addition, it was noted that Meno teaches a filter that is adjustable, i.e., that the anisotropic filter kernel is rotated into alignment with a selected sector axis such that coefficients or weightings in the matrix are rotated. Thus, the weightings will sum to unity in one selected position, but in other positions apertures with different weightings are used. Therefore, a set of filters where each of the set of spatial filter apertures sum to unity over a line is not shown.

Although no agreement was reached regarding the allowability of the pending claims, Examiner Chang suggested that Applicant submit a response to the outstanding Office action and

indicated that the Office would consider any additional comments or amendments that the Applicant might make in such a response.

Entry of this Interview Summary is respectfully requested. The undersigned is available for telephone consultation during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,



Derek C. Stettner
Reg. No. 37,945

Docket No.: 087805-9025-00
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